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	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
	09/896,523	06/29/2001	Steven K. Hsu	884.453US1	8095
	7	590 06/11/2003			
	Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.			EXAMINER	
	P.O. Box 2938 Minneapolis, MN 55402			TRAN, ANH Q	
				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				2819	
				DATE MAII ED: 06/11/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary  Examin r And Unit Anh Q. Tran  2819  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover she t with the c resp indexe address - Period f r Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Learning of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(s). In or event, however, may a keryly be fixely filed  If the period or only sceledified above, he maximum statutory period will apply and will expire \$28 (8) MONTHS from the entirely date of the communication.  If the period or only sceledified above, he maximum statutory period will apply and will expire \$28 (8) MONTHS from the entirely date of the communication or the period period for the provision of the communication or the making date of the communication, when I share and period them adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(s).  Status  1)② Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 May 2003.  2a)② This action is FINAL.  2b)① This action is non-final.  3)③ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4)② Claim(s) 29-32 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed.  6[③ Claim(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  7] Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner.  Application Papers  9] The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  Application Papers  9] The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved by disapproved by the Examiner.  11 proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved by disapproved by the Examiner.  12 The criffied copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.  11 Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application to from the International Bureau (PCF TRule 1.72(s)).  3 Copies of the certif	•		AB				
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The MAILING DATE of this communicati in appears on the cover she t with the c rresp indence address —  Period of Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Edentified in the major be made be useful approximate of 32 CFR 1.13(d), in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled to the proof of the proo	Oπice Action Summary	Examin r	Art Unit				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions at 37 CPR 1.35(a), in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions at 37 CPR 1.35(a), in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions at 37 CPR 1.35(a), in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions at 37 CPR 1.35(a), and available under the provisions at 37 CPR 1.35(a).  If the period for reply is assected above, the maximum statutory period vill apply and vill expire 32 K (5) MONTH'S from the mailing date of this communication.  Falling to increase the provision of the communication of the communication, even it imply flux, may motion any available under the mailing call of this communication, even it imply flux, may motion any available under the mailing call of this communication, even it imply flux, may motion any available under the mailing call of this communication, even it imply flux, may motion any available under the mailing call of this communication, even it imply flux, may motion any available under the mailing call of this communication.  Status  1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filled on 27 May 2003.  2a) □ This action is FINAL.  2b) □ This action is non-final.  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under £x parte Quayle, 1935 c.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Clairms  4) □ Clairm(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  5) □ Clairm(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  6) □ Clairm(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  6) □ Clairm(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  7) □ Clairm(s) 29-32 is/are rejected.  8) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) □ The drawing(s) filled on 20 is/are silled to 20 is/are silled to 20 is/are silled to 20 is/are silled to							
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Art Unit: 2819

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States
- 2. Claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Declercq et al (5473268).

Claim 29, Declercq shows a voltage-level converter (Fig. 8) comprising:

A static voltage-level converter (21) including an inverter (inherent element since SL bar signal is an inverted signal of SL) coupled to no more than two transistors (MN1, M'N1) in the static voltage-level converter each of the no more than two transistors directly coupled to a voltage level (ground); and

A split-level output circuit (20) coupled to the static voltage-level converter, wherein the static voltage-level converter includes two down-sized transistors (MP2, M'P2).

Claim 30, Declercq shows the two down-sized transistors are insulated gate field-effect transistors (figures 1A-4B).

Claim 31, Declercq shows a voltage-level converter comprising:

A static voltage-level converter including an inverter coupled to no more than two transistors in the static voltage-level converter each of the no more than two transistors directly coupled to a voltage level; and

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A split-level output circuit coupled to the static voltage-level converter, wherein the static voltage-level converter comprises;

An input node, a first output node, and a second output node;

A first pair of transistors connected in series, the first pair of transistors including a first transistor (MN1) and a second transistor (MP2), the first transistor coupled to the input node (SL); and

A second pair of transistors connected in series, the second pair of transistors including a first transistor (M'N1) and a second transistor (M'P2), the second transistor of the second pair of transistors being cross-coupled with the second transistor of the first pair of transistors and the second transistor of the second pair of transistors being coupled to the first output node (SH bar), wherein the inverter (inherent element since SL bar signal is an inverted signal of SL) is coupled to the input node, to the first transistor of the second pair of transistors, and to the second output node, wherein the second transistor of the first pair of transistors and the second transistor of the second pair of transistors and the second transistor of the second pair of transistors are down-sided (MP2 & M'P2 are much smaller than MN1 & M'N1).

Claim 32, Declercq shows the second transistor of the first pair of transistors and the second transistor of the second pair of transistors are insulated gate field-effect transistors (Fig. 1A-4B).

## Conclusion

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

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CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Q. Tran whose telephone number is 703-306-4507. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (7:00-5:30) Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tokar can be reached on 703-305-3493. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7724 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Anh Tran